THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. JANA KRISHNAMURTHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Planning Commission has allocated an amount of Rs. 18.00 crore for construction/extension of High Court buildings and the use of information technology in High Courts during the current financial year under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme relating to development of inf rastructural facilities for judiciary on the basis of 50% matching share by the concerned State. The amounts to be released, High Court-wise has not yet been decided. However, prioirty will be accorded to redressing the inf rastructural deficiencies of the newly established High Courts of Chhattisgarh, Uttaranchal andJharkhand.

Panel of retired Judges to clear pending cases

544. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government would consider constituting a panel of retired Judges to preside over long pending cases in all the Central Jails in all the States on the pattern of Patna High Court Judges in Bihar;

(b) if so, by when the same would be implemented in Delhi and other States; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. JANA KRISHNAMURTHI): (a) to (c) The Subordinate Judiciary is under the administrative control of the respective High Court under articles 234 and 235 of the Constitution. The decision is to be taken by High Courts in consultation with the respective State Governments to constitute a panel of retired Judges to preside over long pending cases in the Central Jails. At present, there is no proposal to constitute such a panel of retired Judges in Delhi.

Functioning in courts

†545. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the editorial

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†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

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column of 'Dainik Jagaran', dated 7th June, 2002 highlighting the mode of functioning of the personnel working in the courts and record rooms;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government would take concrete steps to remove such irregularities prevalent in the courts and take stringent action against the persons obstructing justice; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. JANA KRISHNAMURTHI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.The news-item condemns action of strick by the Union of Court staff in Karkardooma in Delhi over the arrest of a record keeper for not furnishing record of a case for one year. The arrest was made on the direction of the Metropolitan Magistrate.

(c) and (d) As reported in the news-item the court has already taken action against the delinquent employee. The control over District Courts and courts subordinate thereto in the NCT of Delhi vest with the High Court of Delhi.

The Chief Justice every year nominates a group of Judical Officers under his direct supervision and control for the purpose of inspection and vigilance.

Family Courts in Andhra Pradesh

546. SHRI YADLAPATIVENKAT RAO: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any request has been received for setting-up of new family courts in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of existing family courts in Andhra Pradesh, district-wise?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. JANA KRISHNAMURTHI): (a) and (b) The High Court of Andhra Pradesh has informed that on a proposal made by the State Government of Andhra Pradesh and keeping in view the pendency of cases falling under the